

REMARKS

The applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the application and request reexamination and reconsideration of the Application in view of the following remarks.

The applicants appreciate and thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 16-21 and 23 are allowable.

To advance prosecution, claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 13-15, and 22 are cancelled.

The applicants appreciate and thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 4, 8, and 10-12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

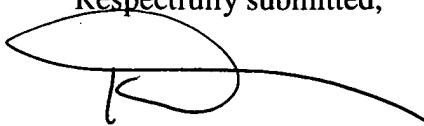
Amended claims 4, 8, 10, and 11 now include the language of claims 1; claim 12 depends from presently amended claim 11. The applicant has rewritten the above claims per the suggestion of the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

Each of the Examiner's rejections has been addressed or traversed. It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

If for any reason this Response is found to be incomplete, or if at any time it appears that a telephone conference with counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the undersigned or his associates, collect in Waltham, Massachusetts at (781) 890-5678.

Respectfully submitted,



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LE-204J
NPC/dmg